



NO. 354 DEC.

NEW: **POW WOW SMITH,** INDIAN LAWMAN

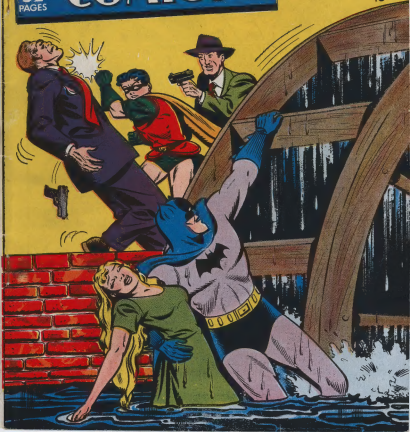


Detective COMICS

52
PAGES

Another
ACTION-PACKED
ADVENTURE
WITH
BATMAN
and **ROBIN!**

10¢





JIMMY'S

BIGGEST CHRISTMAS

(THANKS TO DAD)



MOTHER, JIMMY AND I ARE GOING CHRISTMAS SHOPPING. I'LL TRY TO FIND OUT WHAT KIND OF A BICYCLE HE WANTS.

BIF CAREFUL NOT TO GIVE OUR SURPRISE AWAY.



OH, DAD, LET'S GO IN AND SEE THE BICYCLES!

OKAY, SON.



LOOK AT THAT BICYCLE! IT SURE IS A BEAUTY!

THAT'S A NEW ROADMASTER! IT'S BUILT JUST LIKE YOUR CAR!



SEE, DAD, THE STOPLIGHT WORKS OFF THE BRAKE, AND IT HAS A POWERFUL SEARCH BEAM HEADLIGHT. THOSE CHROME GOTHIC FENDERS ARE LIKE FENDERS ON 1950 CARS!



THERE WAS NEVER A BICYCLE LIKE THIS WHEN I WAS A KID! IMAGINE A SHOCKMASTER FORK!



XMAS MORNING

MERRY CHRISTMAS, JIMMY!

HOT DOG! A ROADMASTER! WHAT A CHRISTMAS! THANKS MOTHER AND DAD! I'M THE LUCKIEST GUY IN THE WORLD!

ASK FOR ONE FOR CHRISTMAS

SEND FOR **FREE** BOOKLET

Roadmaster
AMERICA'S *finest* BICYCLE

ROADMASTER
Box 11150, Dept. 4, Kansas Road
Boulder, Colorado

NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____
STATE _____

Copyright © 1986
Bicycle Magazine, Inc.

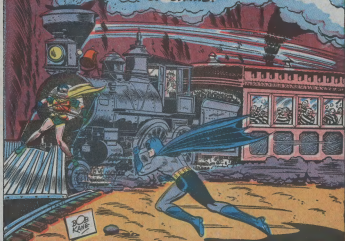
BATMAN

WITH
ROBIN

—THE BOY WONDER—

A THRILLING EPISODE OF HISTORY WAS THE FAMOUS UNDERGROUND RAILROAD THAT LONG AGO SMUGGLED SLAVES TO LIBERTY! EVEN MORE STARTLING ARE THE EVENTS THAT TAKE PLACE WHEN THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD IS REVIVED IN THE PRESENT DAY-- BUT THIS TIME TO CARRY ESCAPED, VICIOUS CONVICTS TO FREEDOM! FOR SO CUNNING ARE THE ENGINEERS OF THIS TRAIN OF ESCAPES, THAT BATMAN AND ROBIN MUST DARE MILE-A-MINUTE DANGER TO DERAIL THE ...

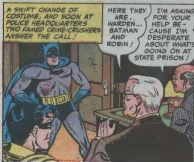
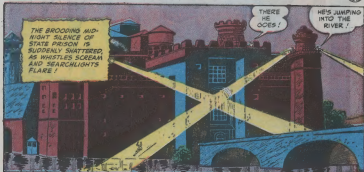
"UNDERGROUND RAILROAD OF CRIME!"

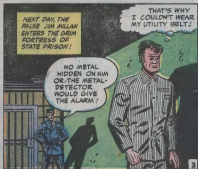
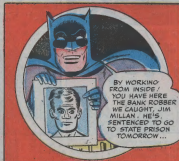
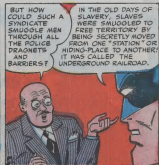


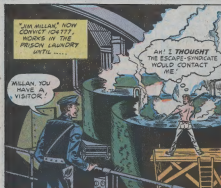
DETECTIVE COMICS, No. 154, Dec. 1949. Published monthly by National Comics Publications, Inc., 480 Lexington Ave., New York 17, N. Y. Whomey Ellsworth, Editor. Reprinted as second class matter April 28, 1942 at the Post Office at New York, N. Y. under the act of March 3, 1879. Yearly subscription in the U. S. \$1.50 including postage. Foreign, \$3.00 in American funds. For advertising rates address Richard A. Feldon & Co.,

205 E. 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y. Entire content copyrighted 1949 by National Comics Publications, Inc. Except those who have authorized use of their names, the stories, characters and incidents mentioned in this periodical are entirely imaginary and fictitious and no identification with actual persons, living or dead, is intended or should be inferred.

Printed in U.S.A.



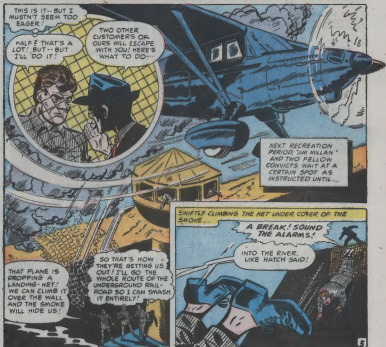
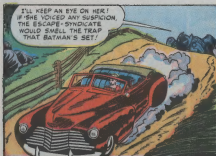




BACK IN THE PRISON LAUNDRY, BATMAN TURNS A STEAM-EXHAUST VALVE RAPIDLY ON AND OFF TO...

BATMAN'S SIGNAL-CODE OF STEAM PUFFS! WATCH MILLAN'S GIRL! M-A-Y S-U-S-P-E-C-T I'M I-M-P-E-R-S-O-N-A-T-O-R!





THAT PLANE IS DROPPING A LANDING-NET! WE CAN CLIMB IT OVER THE WALL AND THE SMOKE WILL HIDE US!

SO THAT'S HOW THEY'RE GETTING US OUT! I'LL GO THE WHOLE ROUTE OF THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD SO I CAN SWASH IT ENTIRELY!

SWIFTLY CLIMBING THE NET UNDER COVER OF THE SMOKE...

A BREAK! SOUND THE ALARMS!

INTO THE RIVER, LIKE HATCH SAID!



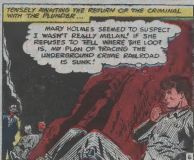
ONCE THROUGH THE CANAL, AN INNOCENT-LOOKING DUCK FORGES DOWNSTREAM UNTIL NEAR GOTHAM CITY IT DESERTS THE WATER FOR THE LAND!

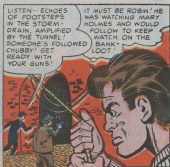


THROUGH THE STORM-DRAIN, THE WAY LEADS TO...

THIS IS THE STATION OF THE ABANDONED OLD SUBWAY LINES-- STATION TWO ON THE CRIME RAILROAD!

IT'S PAY IN ADVANCE, NOW! TELL WHERE YOUR LOOT IS HIDDEN, AND CHUBBY WILL BRING IT HERE SO YOU CAN PAY US!







YOU WERE THE FAKE "JIM MILLAN" WEREN'T YOU, BATMAN?

THEN YOU *KNEW* I WASN'T THE REAL MILLAN? IF THAT'S SO, WHY DID YOU TURN HIS LOOT OVER TO THE CROOKS?



BECAUSE I KNEW IF *THEY* SUSPECTED YOU AS I DID, THEY'D KILL YOU! AND I COULDN'T LET THAT HAPPEN!

I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT THEY GOT AWAY FROM ME WITH THAT MONEY.

SO TWO MASTER HUNTERS RENEW THE SEARCH FOR THE MYSTERIOUS CRIME RAILROAD.



I HOPED THAT IF JIM RETURNED THAT LOOT, HE WOULD GET OUT OF PRISON SOONER, AND GO STRAIGHT! NOW MY LAST HOPE'S GONE!

THEY GOT THE MONEY BECAUSE YOU WANTED TO SAVE MY LIFE! THE BATMAN PAYS HIS DEBTS, MARY! I'LL GET IT BACK--AND THE UNDERGROUND RAILROAD CROOKS, TOO!

THEY LEFT NO TRACKS! HOW CAN WE TELL WHICH TUNNEL THEY TOOK?



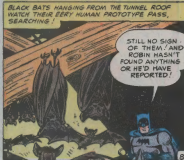
WE CAN FIRST FIND WHICH ONES THEY *DIDN'T* TAKE! NO AIR-CURRENT IN THIS ONE SHAKES THE MATCH-FLAME-- SO IT MUST BE BLOCKED AND IMPASSABLE!



MOMENTS LATER...

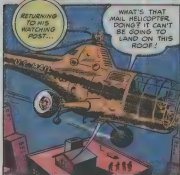
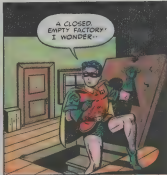
THE MATCH-FLAME TEST SHOWS ONLY THESE TWO TUNNELS ARE CLEAR! I'LL TRY THE LEFT-HAND ONE-- YOU TAKE THE OTHER!

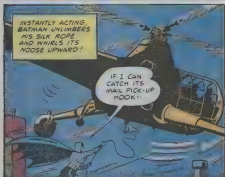
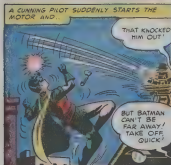
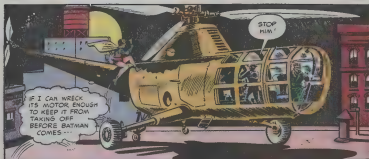
OKAY! WE'LL KEEP IN TOUCH BY BELT-RADIO!

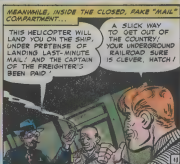
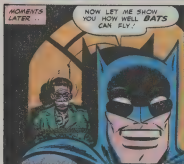


BLACK BATS HANGING FROM THE TUNNEL ROOF WATCH THEIR EERY HUMAN PROTOTYPE PASS, SEARCHING!

STILL NO SIGN OF THEM! AND ROBIN HASN'T FOUND ANYTHING OR HE'D HAVE REPORTED!







SOON, THE BUMP OF LANDING, AND THEN...

WE'RE HERE.
EVERYBODY
OUT!

AH, NOW
FOR SOME
FRESH SEA-
AIR!

LATER, IN GOTHAM CITY
JAIL, THE REAL JIM
MILLAN HAS VISITORS

MILLAN, I RECOVERED
YOUR LOOT, BUT DIDN'T
TURN IT OVER TO THE POLICE
YET I WANT YOU TO HEAR
WHAT MARY DID FOR YOU...
AND FOR ME... FIRST.

I FORGOT TO MENTION
THAT I **SIDETRACKED**
THE UNDERGROUND CRIME
RAILROAD... RIGHT BACK
TO STATE PRISON!

JIM, YOUR LAST
CHANCE TO TURN
STRAIGHT WAS
ALMOST LOST!

WHEN JIM WAS HEARD

MARY, GIVE THE
MONEY BACK TO
THE BANK, FOR ME. AND YOU'VE GOT MY
PROMISE TO GO STRAIGHT WHEN I GET OUT!

YOU STILL HAVE TO
SERVE YOUR TERM,
BUT RETURNING
THAT LOOT WILL
MAKE YOU ELIGIBLE
FOR PAROLE!

I THINK HE'S OFF
THE CRIME ROAD FOR
GOOD, BATMAN!

AND JUST IN TIME!
FOR CRIME IS AN
UNDERGROUND RAIL-
ROAD THAT **ALWAYS**
LEADS TO THE SAME
GRIM END!

THE END

WOW! KIDS!

I'M GIVING AWAY

10,000 OFFICIAL BAZOOKA SCOUTING KNIVES!

YESSIREE! IT'S THE KNIFE
YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED!
WHAT A GIFT!



TO THE FIRST 10,000 BOYS & GIRLS TO SEND IN 100 PENNY BAZOOKA WRAPPERS!

YOU CAN WIN my official scouting
knife! Just follow these simple rules!

1. Start today to save the wrappers from delicious PENNY BAZOOKA Bubble Gum. All BAZOOKA wrappers are good for this KNIFE OFFER.
2. When you have collected one hundred of these red, white and blue silver foil wrappers, put them in an envelope, with your name and address on a slip of paper inside.
3. Mail to BAZOOKA, Dept. R Box 100, Brooklyn 32, N. Y. The first 10,000 entries received in this prize award will win my BAZOOKA Scouting Knife. Entries judged by the date and hour of the postmark on your letter to give everybody, everywhere the same chance. Duplicate prizes in case of ties.
4. Entries must be postmarked not later than midnight, December 15, 1949, to qualify.
5. Offer open to all residents of the U. S., its territories and possessions, except employees, and their families, of Topps Chewing Gum and its advertising agency.

Send no money
write no letters
Start Collecting
Wrappers Today and
Have your
Knife before
Christmas!



2 BIG CHEWS 1¢

Made by the makers of Topps Chewing Gum

THE CASE OF
THE VANISHING
BUILDING

DASHIELL HAMMETT'S

Adventures of

SAM SPADE

PUBLIC BUILDINGS HAVE BEEN BLOWN TO BITS. POLICE SUSPECT DREARY AGENTS. NOW PRIVATE DETECTIVE SAM SPADE AND EFFIE, HIS SECRETARY, VISIT THE STREET WHERE POLICE HAVE LOST THEIR SUSPECT.

THEY LOST HIM SOMEWHERE ON THIS STREET. EFFIE: LET'S LOOK AROUND!

NICE MEAT BARBER SHOP, SAM!

THIS PLACE IS A FAKE, BABY. SEE THAT WILDOOT CREAM-OL BOTTLE? IT'S NEVER BEEN OPENED. COME ON—SIDE DOOR.

CALL THE COPS, EFFIE. I'M SEEING RED!

YOU HEAR, RED? SAM: I'M ON MY WAY!

I STILL DON'T KNOW HOW YOU KNOW THAT SHOP WAS FRODO'S, SAM.

SHAPLE, SWEETHEART! WILDOOT CREAM-OL IS THE MOST POPULAR HAIR TONIC IN THE COUNTRY FOR SHOOKING HAIR. IN REAL BARBERSHOPS, A BOTTLE IS ALWAYS OPEN, READY TO USE.

SAM SPADE ASKS:

CAN YOUR SCALP PASS THE FINGERNAIL TEST?

TRY IT! SCRATCH YOUR HEAD IF YOU FIND SCALPS OF DRYNESS AND JOCKE. LOOK DANDY! YOU NEED WILDOOT CREAM-OL HAIR TONIC, NON-ALCOHOLIC. CONTRAST SOOTHING LAMOLIN.

EFFIE SAYS:

SMART GIRLS USE WILDOOT CREAM-OL FOR QUICK SHOOKING AND FOR RELIEVING DRYNESS BETWEEN PERMANENTS. WOMEN FIND IT WONDERFUL FOR TRULY NO CHILDREN'S HAIR.



Impossible-- BUT TRUE!

THIS IS AN IMITATION OF THE AGRA RUBY--AN ALMOST WORTHLESS STONE! YET MEN SOUGHT IT--AND THOSE WHO GOT IT, DIED? WHY, THEN, DID THEY SEEK IT?

IT WAS SAID THAT ANYONE WHO POSSESSED THE SHIMMERING RUBY WOULD ENCOUNTER TRAGEDY! BUT TO ROY RAYMOND, PRODUCER OF THE ODDITY-FILLED "IMPOSSIBLE BUT TRUE!" TELEVISION SHOW, THE LEGEND WAS MERELY SUPERSTITION--SOMETHING THAT COULDN'T HAPPEN! YET--TWO MEN DIED... TWO MEN WHO HELD THE RUBY WHEN THE END CAME!--AND DOUBTFUL ROY RAYMOND WITNESSED BOTH DEATHS--YET THERE WAS AN ANSWER--A SOLUTION! MAYBE YOU'LL GUESS THE SECRET YOURSELF, AS THE MAN OF A THOUSAND FACTS DISCOVERED WHEN HE SET OUT TO SOLVE...
THE RIDDLE of the RUBY!



ONCE AGAIN ROY RAYMOND'S FASCINATING TELEVISION SHOW "IMPOSSIBLE--BUT TRUE!" IS ON THE AIR TO TELECAST THE WORLD'S MOST INCREDIBLE ODDITIES.

THIS IS KAREN COLBY, MR. RAYMOND'S ASSISTANT. I AM TAKING HIS PLACE TONIGHT BECAUSE HE IS SOMEWHERE IN EUROPE, GATHERING MORE IMPOSSIBLE--BUT-TRUE FACTS TO BE SHOWN ON THIS PROGRAM...

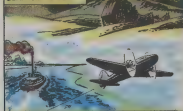


AT THIS VERY MOMENT, FAR ACROSS THE WORLD, THE HUNTER OF ODDITIES STANDS IN A HUGE LENINGRAD CHURCH...

THIS IS ROY RAYMOND AGAIN--I AM NOW IN ST. ISAAC'S CATHEDRAL IN LENINGRAD! I AM FILMING THE LARGEST SINGLE STONES THE HAND OF MAN HAS EVER CUT, ROUNDED AND POLISHED...



AFTER LEAVING LENINGRAD, THE MAN OF TEN THOUSAND FACTS HEADS WESTWARD BY CARRIAGE, BOAT AND PLANE...



...AND ALWAYS HIS CAMERA WHIRS CEASELESSLY, RECORDING COLORFUL AND INCREDIBLE SCENES TO BE USED IN A TELEVISION STUDIO THOUSANDS OF MILES AWAY!...

WITH HIM, HE HAS A PORTABLE RECORDING SET AND A MOVIE CAMERA! I DON'T KNOW JUST WHERE HE IS, BUT THE AMAZING THINGS HE SEES AND RECORDS WILL BE BROUGHT BACK HERE---AND THEN TELECAST RIGHT INTO YOUR LIVING ROOMS...



THESE GIGANTIC, ROSE-COLORED COLUMNS ARE 56 FEET HIGH AND ARE SIX AND ONE-HALF FEET IN DIAMETER! AND REMEMBER---EVERY SQUARE INCH OF THEIR SURFACE WAS CUT AND POLISHED BY HAND! IMPOSSIBLE BUT TRUE!



FINALLY, A STOP IN WALES,...

I AM NOW REACHING THE SUMMIT OF A MOUNTAIN CALLED CADER-IDRIS! EVEN AT THIS DISTANCE, YOU CAN SEE THE STRANGE CARVING AT THE TOP WHICH RESEMBLES A GIGANTIC COUCH!...



THIS ODD, COUGH-LIKE EXCAVATION WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN THE RESTING PLACE OF A LEGENDARY **GIANT!**... IT IS AN AMAZING PHENOMENON, FOR NATURE CARVED IT FROM SOLID ROCK!

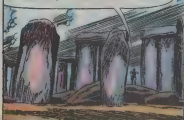


ONE DAY LATER...

WHILE I'M IN ENGLAND, I'LL GET PICTURES OF ANCIENT STONEHENGE... HERE ON THE HISTORIC CHALK PLAINS OF SALISBURY...



THIS IS ONE OF THE GREAT MYSTERIES OF HISTORY! THE HORIZONTAL STONES HIGH AT THE TOP WEIGH **TONS**-- YET THEY WERE PLACED THERE CENTURIES AGO-- BEFORE DERRICKS WERE EVER INVENTED! **HOW DID THEY GET THERE?** IMPOSSIBLE--BUT TRUE!



THE HUNT FOR ODDITIES ENDS IN LONDON--ON A WET NIGHT, AND AS ROY RAYMOND LEAVES HIS HOTEL FOR THE AIRPORT HE HEARS RAINT CRIES...

HELP! HELP ME!... I'M DYING!

THOSE MOANS... SOMEONE IN TROUBLE!



EASY, THERE... WHAT'S WRONG?

UNH... THE RUBY...THE DEATH RUBY...IT GOT ME...IT GOT THE REST! THE THING'S A CURSE... UNH...



HE'S DEAD! WHM-- I'VE HAD MUCH EXPERIENCE WITH GEMS IN MY TRAVELS! I HAVE QUITE A COLLECTION HOME! AND FROM WHAT I KNOW ABOUT RUBIES, I'D SAY THIS ONE IS AN **IMITATION!**





SUDDENLY, THE SOUND OF SIRENS--AND OUT OF THE MISTS APPEARS AN AMBULANCE! FIGURES GET OUT AND...

SOMEONE SUMMONED US ONLY MOMENTS AGO! WAS IT YOU?

NO, SIR! HE DIED AS SOON AS I REACHED HIS SIDE! IN HIS HAND HE HELD THIS RUBY! --LOOK! HE SAID THERE WAS A CURSE ON IT!



IT'S JUST WORTHLESS GLASS! ITS VALUE LIES ONLY IN THE MANY LEGENDS OF DEATH AND TRAGEDY BEHIND IT!

HMM... PERHAPS MY TELEVISION AUDIENCE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ACTUALLY SEEING THIS LEGENDARY BAD LUCK PIECE!



AND ON THE FOLLOWING FRIDAY "IMPOSSIBLE... BUT TRUE" AGAIN GOES BEFORE THE CAMERAS.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, ON THE LAST LEG OF MY TRIP BACK I CHANCED ACROSS THIS STONE-- AN IMITATION OF THE FAMED AGRA RUBY-- WHICH WAS CLUTCHED BY THE HAND OF THE DYING MAN!...



I'M MORE THAN CERTAIN, HOWEVER, THAT THE RUBY IS AN IMITATION!

YES--I RECOGNIZE IT FROM PICTURES I'VE SEEN IN THE PAPERS! IT'S A COPY OF THE ANCIENT AGRA RUBY-- AND THERE IS SUPPOSED TO BE A CURSE ON ANYONE WHO OWNS IT!...



AFTERWARDS, AT THE AIRPORT CUSTOMS OFFICE--

YOU WERE RIGHT, MR. RAYMOND--IT'S ONLY AN IMITATION! WE'VE CHECKED IT! YOU MAY PROCEED!

AN IMITATION, YES... BUT THE STORY BEHIND IT WILL INTEREST A LOT OF PEOPLE!



THIS RUBY IS SUPPOSED TO HAVE CAUSED MANY DEATHS. YET WE REFUSE TO BELIEVE IN SUPERSTITIONS OF THAT SORT! HOWEVER...





BUT BEFORE THE FACT MAN CAN FINISH THE NEXT SENTENCE OF A STORY HE IS ABOUT TO RECOUNT, A HARSH CRY RINGS ACROSS THE STUDIO...



AS THE LAW BREAKS IN, THE CROOK WITH THE IMITATION GEM TRIES TO RUN OUT A BACK DOOR--BUT TRIPS OVER A MAZE OF WIRES...



THERE IS A SHORT IN THE CIRCUIT--THE LIGHTS GO OUT, THEN AFTER BRIEF MOMENTS' FLASH ON AGAIN...



I DON'T HAVE TO KEEP REMINDING YOU ABOUT THE TITLE OF YOUR OWN SHOW, RAY-- "IMPOSSIBLE--BUT TRUE!" MAYBE THE CURSE IS REAL!

NO--I REFUSE TO BELIEVE IT--EVEN AFTER HAVING SEEN TWO MEN DIE! IT'S A COINCIDENCE--IT'S GOT TO BE...



COINCIDENCE, EH? YOU SAW IT WORK TWICE--AND WHO KNOWS HOW MANY TIMES IT WORKED BEFORE THAT? BRR--LET'S GET RID OF THAT FAKE RUBY!

NO, KAREN! THAT WOULD ONLY PROVE I'M A SUPERSTITIOUS FOOL!





THEY STEP INTO A WAITING CAR, AND A MOTOR PURRS. GEARS GRIND, AND AS THE CAR SPEEDS FORWARD...

WE'RE GOING DOWNHILL - AND THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG! WHEN WE PASS THE BRIDGE, KAREN - OPEN THE DOOR AND... JUMP!

JUMP? WHY? WHAT'S WRONG, ROY?



BRAKES ARE GONE! GO AHEAD, LEAP!

YOU'RE STILL BOSS, BOSS! HERE GOES...



BRAKES GONE! COULD IT BE... THE RUBY? MAYBE I SHOULD'VE STUCK WITH ROY...



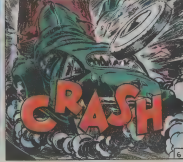
MEANWHILE, THE CAR - NOW A SPEEDING MISSILE OF DEATH - CONTINUES ITS DIZZY RACE DOWNHILL...

I CAN'T JUMP OUT NOW - WITHOUT ANYBODY BEHIND THE WHEEL, THIS BUGGY COULD KILL SOMEONE! GOT TO STICK WITH HER - TAKE A CHANCE ON CRASH LANDING...



HERE GOES...

TWEET! HEY, YOU-- WATCH IT!





ABRUPTLY...

YOU-- YOU'RE ALL RIGHT! AFTER THAT CRACK-UP?..

BRAKES WERE SHOT, OFFICER! I POINTED IT AT THE TREE AND THEN CLIMBED TO THE BACK SEAT AND LAY FLAT.. AN OLD CRASH ARTIST STUNT!..



LATER, AT HIS HOME, WHICH RESEMBLES A MUSEUM OF CURIOS...

... STRAIGHT TO THE GEM ROOM... I CAN'T FIGURE IT! WHY WERE THEY AFTER A FAKE GEM?..



USING SPECIAL INSTRUMENTS, RAYMOND EXPERTLY STRIKES THE BLOOD-RED BAD LUCK STONE, AND WHEN IT COMES APART...

GREAT CAESAR! THE PHONEY RUBY WAS HOLLOW! AND INSIDE ARE FLAWLESS ORIENTAL PEARLS, STUCK IN A GUM TO KEEP THEM FROM RATTING!



AS FOR YOU MR. MYSTERY RUBY . YOU NEARLY GOT ME THAT TIME! BUT I'M STILL NOT CONVINCED YOU'RE BAD LUCK! I'M GOING TO FIND OUT WHAT MAKES YOU TICK-- AND WHY CROOKS WENT AFTER AN IMITATION GEM.



HE PLACES THE FANTASTIC FALSE GEM UNDER A POWERFUL GLASS AND SEES WHAT THE NAKED EYE WOULD NEVER DETECT...

YES-- I SEE IT! AN ODD LINE THROUGH THE RUBY--AS IF IT HAS BEEN STUCK TOGETHER! I'LL TRY BREAKING IT



QUICKLY, HE GOES INTO THE CRIME ROOM...

WHAT AN OAF I'VE BEEN! I NOW KNOW THE SECRET OF THE RUBY! I'VE BEEN MADE PART OF AN ASTOUNDING PLOT!.. AND PERHAPS THERE ARE ONLY MOMENTS LEFT-- BECAUSE NOW THEY'RE AFTER ME!





LATER, IN HIS LIBRARY... AND A VOICE SOUNDS FROM THE SHADOWS...

I SEE YOU SURVIVED THE WRECK AFTER WE DISCONNECTED YOUR BRAKES! BUT THAT DOESN'T MATTER-- HAND OVER THE RUBY, PLEASE! AT ONCE!

YOU--! THE "DOCTOR" I SAW IN LONDON THE NIGHT THE MAN DIED WITH THE RUBY...



WHEN I HEARD YOU WERE IN LONDON, I DEvised THE WHOLE SCHEME OF THE BAD-**LUCK** RUBY, KNOWING YOUR CURIOSITY WOULD WIN YOU OVER-- AND THAT YOU WOULD BRING IT HERE TO THE STATES FOR ME...



FOR THE SECOND TIME THE RUBY SPLITS OPEN-- ONLY NOW...

EH? WHAT'S THIS? (COUGH! COUGH!) CHOK--GASP!

TEAR GAS! I PUT IT IN AND CEMENTED THE RUBY TOGETHER AGAIN! THE PEARLS TIPPED ME OFF TO THE WHOLE SCHEME!



HA, HA! HE WAS ONE OF **MY** MEN-- AND QUITE AN ACTOR, EH? AS FOR ME, I **POSED** AS A DOCTOR! I AM THE FAMOUS COUNT B, CLEVEREST OF ALL SMUGGLERS! ER-- THE RUBY...



UNFORTUNATELY, MY MAN AT THE STUDIO WAS KILLED IN HIS BLUNDERING EFFORT TO ESCAPE-- WHICH CAN'T BE BLAMED ON THE RUBY! HA, HA! LET ME SHOW YOU WHAT YOU BROUGHT INTO THE COUNTRY-- SOMETHING **MY** MEN WOULD NEVER HAVE BEEN ABLE TO SNEAK PAST CUSTOMS... CLEVER, EH...?



LATER, WHEN KAREN ARRIVES WITH THE POLICE...

I SAW FROM THE WINDOW--AND WENT FOR HELP! YOU WERE RIGHT-- THE RUBY WASN'T **REALLY** BAD LUCK!

BUT IT WAS!.. FOR COUNT B, WHO WAS WANTED FOR SMUGGLING AND **MURDER!** YOU SEE, THE RUBY IS ACTUALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FACT THAT HE WILL DIE IN THE CHAIR! QUITE IRONIC, EH?



THE END

MOST SENSATIONAL TOM MIX OFFER EVER!

SEND FOR THIS MAGIC
MINIATURE OF MY
OWN SIX-SHOOTER.
READ BELOW ABOUT
THE TRICKS IT DOES!



TOM MIX SUPER-MAGNETIC Compass Gun AND SIGNAL WHISTLE



IT'S A BEAUTIFUL WATCH FOB,
BRACELET OR KEY CHAIN!



HIDDEN HOOK holds arrowhead on your belt shoe watch pocket.
Fasten special clasp to wear around your wrist.

IT'S A NEW KIND
OF COMPASS!



Dangle gun from chain and it
always points north. Find your
way at night, too! It GLOWS!

IT'S A SHRILL
SIGNAL WHISTLE!



HIDDEN WHISTLE (in arrow-
head) permits you to signal
friends, call for help.

ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL
LITTLE MAGNETS YOU'VE EVER SEEN!



Makes pins, paper clips jump $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in air! Put small piece of metal
under paper—gun above—and it lifts paper and all! Holds heavy letter
opener to tap point. AMAZING MAGNETIC POWER!

It's really super! Be among the
first in your neighborhood to get
this perfect little model of Tom's
Six-Shooter—amaze your friends
with the tricks it will perform.

YOURS FOR ONLY 15¢

and see
Hot Ralston or
Instant Ralston
box top



DON'T DELAY—USE THIS COUPON!

TOM MIX, Box 88-C, St. Louis, Mo.

Enclosed are 15¢ cash and one Ralston box top for
Tom's Magnetic Compass Gun & Signal Whistle.

Name

Address

City State

If you don't have coupon with name and address on Ralston
box top and mail with 15¢. Offer good only in U.S.A. and may
be withdrawn at any time.

Tune in TOM MIX

3:30-4:00 PM—Mon., Wed., Fri.
—Mutual Broadcasting System

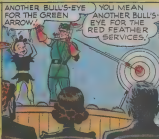


THE GREEN ARROW

and the Red Feather Kid



IN A PACKED AUDITORIUM, A THRILLED CROWD WATCHES THE GREEN ARROW, WORLD'S FOREMOST ARCHERY EXPERT, DISPLAY HIS WIZARDRY WITH THE BOW AND ARROW...



ANOTHER BULL'S-EYE FOR THE GREEN ARROW!

YOU MEAN ANOTHER BULL'S-EYE FOR THE RED FEATHER SERVICES?

I'VE DISCARDED MY USUAL GREEN-FEATHERED ARROWS AND USED THESE RED-FEATHERED ONES FOR A SPECIAL REASON -- TO EMPHASIZE THE RED FEATHER, A SYMBOL OF SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE AGES... LIKE THIS ONE THE RED FEATHER KID WEARS IN HIS CAP...



"HIS RED FEATHER IDENTIFIES THE VARIOUS SERVICES WHICH RECEIVE SUPPORT THROUGH COMMUNITY CHEST CAMPAIGNS -- SERVICES FOR SCOUTS, GIRLS AND BOYS CLUBS, THE Y'S..."



"... SERVICES FOR YOUNGSTERS IN DAY NURSERIES, SETTLEMENT HOUSES AND FOSTER HOMES..."



"... HEALTH SERVICES IN HOSPITALS, CLINICS AND CONVALESCENT HOMES..."



THESE ARE ONLY SOME OF THE SERVICES YOU CONTRIBUTE TO WHEN YOU GIVE TO COMMUNITY CHEST CAMPAIGNS. SO GIVE GENEROUSLY!

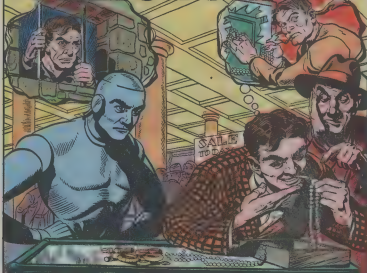
YES, SCORE A BULL'S-EYE YOURSELF BY CONTRIBUTING TO THE RED FEATHER SERVICES! REMEMBER, IT'S "A FEATHER IN YOUR CAP" TO WEAR A RED FEATHER!



PUBLISHED AS A PUBLIC SERVICE IN COOPERATION WITH THE ADVERTISING COUNCIL AND THE COMMUNITY CHESTS OF AMERICA, THIS PAGE APPEARS IN MORE THAN 10,000,000 MAGAZINES OF THE NATIONAL COMICS GROUP (SUPERMAN-DC PUBLICATIONS).



ROBOTMAN



STRANGE THOUGHTS ARISE IN THE MIND OF ROBOTMAN, THE MAN OF METAL WITH THE HUMAN BRAIN... AND THEY CAUSE PLENTY OF TROUBLE BEFORE HE CAN CLEAR THEM OUT. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS LIFE, THE MAN OF METAL CAN'T THINK STRAIGHT ... BECAUSE FOR THE FIRST TIME IN HIS LIFE HE BECOMES

PAUL DENNIS, ALIAS ROBOTMAN, HAS JUST STOPPED TO BUY A NEWSPAPER. WHEN A STRANGE THOUGHT ENTERS HIS MIND...

THANKS, MISTER.

YOU'RE WELCOME!

OH, DEAR, I'LL HAVE TO SEW MY RED TAFFETA ON THE DRESS WITH RUFFLES TOMORROW MORNING!

ROBOTMAN, MIND-READER



HUH? AM I CRAZY? WHAT KIND OF THOUGHT IS THAT FOR ME, ROBOTMAN TO HAVE?

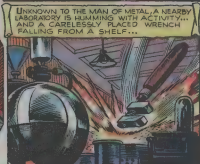


THAT'S THE WAY THIS OLD LADY MIGHT THINK, BUT NOT A MAN LIKE ME...

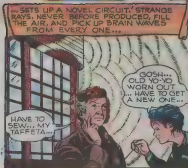
GOSH, MY OLD BLUE YO-YO IS WORN OUT... I'M GOING TO BUY ONE OF THE NEW RED ONES... THEY'RE KEEN.



AND NOW I HAD THE KIND OF THOUGHT THAT THIS YOUNGSTER MUST BE HAVING... WHAT'S HAPPENING TO ME?



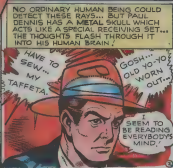
UNKNOWN TO THE MAN OF METAL, A NEARBY LABORATORY IS HUMMING WITH ACTIVITY... AND A CARELESSLY PLACED WRENCH FALLING FROM A SHELF...



...SETS UP A NOVEL CIRCUIT. STRANGE RAYS, NEVER BEFORE PRODUCED, FILL THE AIR, AND PICK UP BRAIN WAVES FROM EVERY ONE...

GOSH... OLD YO-YO WORN OUT... HAVE TO GET A NEW ONE...

HAVE TO SEW... MY TAFFETA...



NO ORDINARY HUMAN BEING COULD DETECT THESE RAYS... BUT PAUL DENNIS HAS A METAL SKULL WHICH ACTS LIKE A SPECIAL RECEIVING SET... THE THOUGHTS FLASH THROUGH IT INTO HIS HUMAN BRAIN.

HAVE TO SEW... MY TAFFETA.

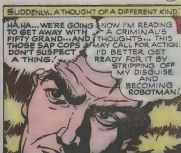
GOSH... OLD YO-YO WORN OUT...

I SEEM TO BE READING EVERYBODY'S MIND.



GOTTA ORDER MORE PAPERS TO-MORROW... BUY BIRTHDAY PRESENT FOR LUCY MAE...

I'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE BEFORE I LOSE MY OWN MIND!



SUDDENLY... A THOUGHT OF A DIFFERENT KIND!

HA, HA... WE'RE GOING TO GET AWAY WITH FIFTY GRAND... AND THOSE SAP COPS DON'T SUSPECT A THING.

NOW I'M READING A CRIMINAL'S THOUGHTS... THIS MAY CALL FOR ACTION. I'D BETTER GET READY FOR IT BY STRIPPING OFF MY DISGUISE AND BECOMING ROBOTMAN!



WHILE AROUND THE CORNER...

HMM... THAT'S A GOOD WAY TO ADVERTISE A PICTURE.

YEAH, WE THINK IT'S CLEVER TOO.

YOU TELL HIM, OWL!



HA, HA! WHAT ACTORS! CARDBOARD BALL AND CHAIN, FAKE CONVICT SUITS... YOU ALMOST SOUND REAL!

NO COPPER'S GONNA CRAMP OUR STYLE! WE'RE TOUGH... SEE?

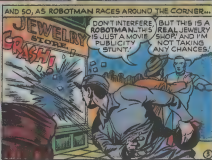


WE ARE REAL, SAP!



YOU'RE SMART, CHUM... WE CAN'T FOOL YOU! THIS IS A PHONEY COP... AND NOW WE'RE GOING TO PULL OFF A PHONEY JOB!

THE SAP BELIEVES ME!

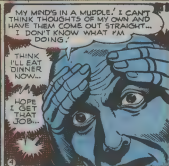
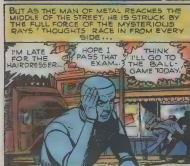
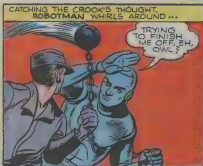


AND SO, AS ROBOTMAN RACES AROUND THE CORNER...

JEWELRY STORE! CRASH!

DON'T INTERFERE! BUT THIS IS A ROBOTMAN... THIS IS JUST A MOVIE PUBLICITY STUNT!

REAL JEWELRY SHOP! AND I'M NOT TAKING ANY CHANCES!



THROUGH THE MAZE OF THOUGHTS, ONE IDEA OF HIS OWN BECOMES CLEAR...AND ROBOTMAN STUMBLES TOWARD A SPORTING GOODS STORE.



PRESENTLY



ROBOTMAN! THOSE THUGS SHED THEIR CONVICT OUTFITS... NOW YOU CAN'T FIND THEM AGAIN! THEY'VE ESCAPED!



I HATE TO DO THIS... IT MIGHT DRIVE ME CRAZY AGAIN! BUT IF I CAN READ ENOUGH MINDS... I MIGHT GET A THOUGHT THAT WOULD PUT ME ON THEIR TRAIL!

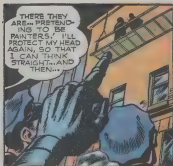


ONCE MORE, THOUGHTS OF ALL KINDS POUND AT THE METAL MAN'S DEFENSELESS BRAIN.

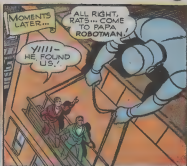


BUT AS THE MAN OF METAL IS ON THE POINT OF GIVING UP...





THERE THEY ARE... PRETENDING TO BE PAINTERS. I'LL PROTECT MY HEAD AGAIN, SO THAT I CAN THINK STRAIGHT... AND THEN...



MOMENTS LATER...

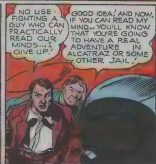
ALL RIGHT, RATS... COME TO PAPA ROBOTMAN!

YIII-- HE FOUND US!



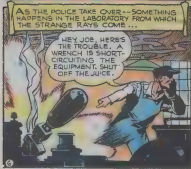
TAKE IT EASY, RATS... YOU CAN'T RUN AWAY-- AND EVEN IF YOU DID... I'D FIND YOU AGAIN!

THAT'S RIGHT! I FIGURED HE WOULDN'T KNOW WHERE TO LOOK FOR US THIS TIME... BUT HE DID!



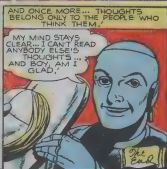
NO USE FIGHTING A GUY WHO CAN PRACTICALLY READ OUR MINDS... I GIVE UP!

GOOD IDEA! AND NOW, IF YOU CAN READ MY MIND... YOU'LL KNOW THAT YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A REAL ADVENTURE IN ALCATRAZ OR SOME OTHER JAIL!



AS THE POLICE TAKE OVER--SOMETHING HAPPENS IN THE LABORATORY FROM WHICH THE STRANGE RAYS COME...

HEY JOE, HERE'S THE TROUBLE. A WRENCH IS SHORT-CIRCUITING THE EQUIPMENT. SHUT OFF THE JUICE.



AND ONCE MORE... THOUGHTS BELONG ONLY TO THE PEOPLE WHO THINK THEM.

MY MIND STAYS CLEAR... I CAN'T READ ANYBODY ELSE'S THOUGHTS... AND BOY, AM I GLAD!

-Hi Fellows! The NEW
LIONEL
TRAINS
 Catalog is Ready



SEE THE NEW
 DIESEL LOCOS-
 and the marvelous
 DIESEL SWITCHER

See Lionel trains at
 your favorite store.

Boy! — I'll bet you and dad are planning a new and bigger LIONEL Railroad for this Christmas! Lots of new LIONEL locos, cars, and accessories to choose from! You know, boys, nobody but LIONEL gives you true railroad realism. The new 1949 catalog tells all about the famous LIONEL smoke puffing locos, the built-in real R.R. whistles, and the sensational Lionel Electronic Railroad. LIONEL Train Sets priced from as little as \$15.95.

WRITE FOR THE CATALOG TODAY!

LIONEL
TRAINS

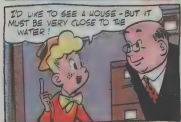
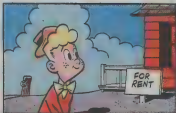
LIONEL TRAINS, P. O. Box 230
 Madison Square Station, New York 10, New York

Enclose 10c. Please send me the new 40-page,
 full-color Lionel Train Catalog for 1949.

Name

Address

City Zone State



ADVERTISEMENT





IT wasn't all muscle and practice that hung up the new world's records and made new champions at the Olympic games in London last year. There was another factor, clear outside the faculties of the contender—but a mighty big help to him.

Science—not the science of skilled performance, but the physiologist's know-how in building athletic health, and the inventor's science in making new gadgets—these were what clipped off seconds from the Olympic records.

The athletes who participated in the 14th modern Olympiad were no better trained and no more determined than contenders at previous meets. But thanks to science, these latest teams had the benefit of different methods and equipment that made them superior to any that went before.

What has happened to make our track athletes shave about ten percent—and even more—off the records of 30 years ago? Partly, it's better general health. Mostly, though, it's the systematic development of the heart and lungs on which most track competition depends. Professor A. V. Hill of Uni-

versity College, London, has made a special study of the subject and he has found that the most successful track athletes can run up what he calls an abnormally large "oxygen debt."

Here's the way it works. Anyone engaged in violent exercise uses up more oxygen than he takes in. The average human being can absorb four litres of oxygen in a minute and expel ten litres of carbon dioxide. A person running at the slow marathon rate of ten miles an hour, can breathe in just enough oxygen to keep his system in balance. A sprinter's muscles need thirty times the normal supply of oxygen in the blood and all this of course adds to what Professor Hill calls the oxygen debt.

The performance of an athlete therefore depends on three things: his heart, his lungs, and his ability to draw upon the oxygen reserves in his system or to function without the full supply of oxygen. The trainers of athletes have only begun to discover how to develop the heart and lung power of their charges. Doctors themselves are still experimenting with the heart and lung power of outstanding runners.

In 30 years, the world's record for the one-mile run has been shaved from four minutes and twelve seconds to four minutes and four seconds. Today, there is speculation whether anyone will achieve the seemingly impossible record of four minutes flat. But not all scientists agree on what kind of physical effort the four-minute miler will have to put forth.

The great engineer Charles P. Steinmetz once estimated that it takes more than 22 men to perform one horsepower's worth of work in the course of a whole day. On the other hand, Dr. J. G. Lester of Emory University in Atlanta estimates that a man who runs a mile in four minutes flat will have to develop seven horsepower.

The point is that track athletes release almost super-human quantities of energy for a short space of time. The man who runs 100 yards in ten seconds will continue to breathe hard for almost an hour. He'll be thoroughly exhausted for two or three minutes. A working man, using a pick and shovel, uses only his arms and therefore uses up less energy, per minute, than a man walking upstairs.

But it's possible to shovel, after a fashion, all day. It's not possible for the average man to spend all day walking up stairs. The human frame just will not stand it. When it comes to breaking a world's record, it takes a great extra effort. A four minute and four seconds mile requires six horsepower; to shave off just four seconds requires a whole extra horsepower—and that's a lot.

Different trainers have applied dif-

ferent methods to athletes, but all these trainers depend more and more on the findings of medical science. Other branches of science also come into the picture in connection with the new-style equipment. At the Olympics, for instance, the races started with a remote control firing device which permitted all competitors to hear the crack of the pistol almost simultaneously. In some of the races, the starters were spread out so wide that those furthest from the starting gun lost one tenth of a second.


The London Olympics also used a new kind of camera which showed the judges a developed film within 90 seconds of the end of the race. No longer did the judges have to traipse off to a movie projection room and spend half an hour or more seeing motion pictures of a disputed event. The method is still being used. Now they can look at a single picture of the actual finish right away.

The pole vaulters try to leap over aluminum, non-sag bars which are raised with a special pulley-hoist. The hurdle bars are made of aluminum too.

And a mechanical leveler smooths off the broad jump pit and new devices are used to measure the exact distance of the jumps.

What's true of track is true of other sports. Physical capacity of all athletes is increasing. Bob Feller can pitch a baseball 98 miles an hour. Jimmy Thompson can drive a golf ball 135 miles an hour. Bill Tilden can serve a tennis ball 151 miles an hour. What will the figures be 30 years from now?

Ps-s-st! Want this Great Columbia Bike for Christmas?



**SUPER-EQUIPPED
FIVE STAR SUPER MOTORBIKE**

FLOATING-ACTION SPRING FORK brings you the smoothest ride of any bike on the road.

THEFT-PROOF PROTECTO-LOCK locks front fork and handle bars, safeguards your bicycle.

FULL PROTECTION CHAIN GUARD gives top and bottom protection, streamlines appearance.

BUILT-IN KICK STAND is instantaneous, absolutely rigid in use, easily operated.

FOR CHRISTMAS, wouldn't you like to have the slickest, smartest bike that ever came down the pipe? This new Columbia is a flashy dream of bright Duo-Tone Color, with gleaming chromum galore! It's got the new Columbia Floating-Action Spring Fork that makes the bumpiest road feel like velvet. It's got big, cross-braced handlebars with hand-operated front wheel expansion brake. It's got the super-safe Full Protection Chain Guard, the convenient Columbia Built-In Kick Stand, and other grand features aplenty. And of course, the Theft-Proof Protecto-Lock to safeguard such a wonderful bike!

LET US HELP YOU GET IT! If you want this grand bicycle for Christmas we'd like to help you get it. Write name of your Father, Mother or Guardian on the coupon, and we'll send a catalog and letter saying that you want it, and telling all the reasons why it is the best bike for you!

MAIL THIS COUPON TODAY!



The Westfield Manufacturing Company
412 Cycle Street, Westfield, Massachusetts
(Fill in below and we'll send a big color catalog and a letter telling your folks why a shiny new Columbia is the best present Santa Claus could bring you!)

My name _____ Age _____

My Father's Name _____

Address _____

Editorial Advisory Board

DR. LAURETTA BENDER
Associate Professor of Psychiatry
School of Medicine, New York University

JOSETTE FRANK
Consultant on Children's Reading,
Child Study Association of America

Dr. W. W. D. SONES
Professor of Education and
Director of Curriculum Study,
University of Pittsburgh

Dr. S. HARCOURT PEPPARD
Director, Essex County Juvenile Clinic,
Newark, N. J.



The following magazines will bear this trademark as your guarantee of the best in comics reading:

ACTION COMICS
A DATE WITH JUDY
ADVENTURE COMICS
ALAN LADD
ALL-AMERICAN WESTERN
ALL-STAR COMICS
ANIMAL ANTICS
BATMAN
BOY COMMANDOS
BUZZY
COMIC CAVALCADE
DALE EVANS
DETECTIVE COMICS
FUNNY FOLKS
FUNNY STUFF
GANG BUSTERS
JIMMY WAKELY

LEADING COMICS
LEAVE IT TO BINKY
MISS BEVERLY HILLS
MR. DISTRICT ATTORNEY
MUTT & JEFF
OZZIE AND HARRIET
PETER PORKCHOPS
REAL SCREEN COMICS
ROMANCE TRAIL
SCRIBBLY
SENSATION COMICS
STAR SPANGLED COMICS
SUPERBOY
SUPERMAN
WESTERN COMICS
WONDER WOMAN
WORLD'S FINEST COMICS

ADVERTISEMENT

BOYS-IT'S FREE!

Exciting NEW BOOK about

ATOMIC ENERGY

and



"THE WONDERS OF CHEMISTRY"

Don't miss it, fellows! Introduces you to the miracles of Atomic Energy...and lets you in on secrets of the mysterious Atomic World. Also shows you how to amaze friends and family with Chemcraft Chemical Magic. Describes many fascinating home experiments. Tells about the fun, thrills, adventure and big future opportunities awaiting boys who know chemistry. Send for your FREE copy of "The Wonders of Chemistry" now! Send penny postal or letter to address shown below. Send today!

INSIST ON
CHEM-CRAFT
America's Leading Chemistry Outfit!



**NOW! with SAFE ATOMIC
ENERGY EXPERIMENTS!**

THE PORTER CHEMICAL COMPANY, 58 Prospect Ave., HAGERSTOWN, MD.



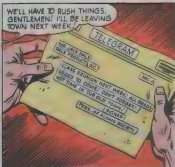
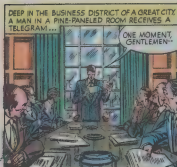
POW-WOW SMITH

INDIAN LAWMAN



FROM FACTORIES, FARMS AND HOSPITALS THEY COME -- COLLEGE GRADS BACK FOR REUNION! AND ONE COMES FROM FARAWAY RED DEER VALLEY THE STALWART SIOUX WARRIOR KNOWN TO THE PALEFACES AS DETECTIVE POW-WOW SMITH! AND BEHIND THE FACADE OF CAMPUS MERRYMAKING NONE CAN GUESS THAT A SINISTER MYSTERY LURKS -- THE MYSTERY OF ...

"DEATH IN THE NORTHWOODS!"





AND ELSEWHERE IN THE VALLEY, BRAVES FLING FRAGILE CRAFTS OVER THE DANGEROUS RAPIDS OF ROARING RIVER IN AN EXCITING **CANOE RACE!**



AND OHYESA (THE WINNER)--KNOWN AS POW-WOW SMITH WHEN HE TAKES UP HIS DETECTIVE DUTIES--EMERGES VICTORIOUS!



BUT HERE, TOO, IN THIS REMOTE PLACE A TELEGRAM ARRIVES...

A MESSAGE FOR YOU, MY SON--FROM THE BIG KNIVES (PALE FACES)... A RUNNER BROUGHT IT.

I WILL BE TAKING LEAVE, FATHER--TO SEE ONCE MORE MY FRIENDS OF COLLEGE DAYS.



THAT NIGHT, POW-WOW LEAVES RED DEER VALLEY CROSSES INTO BIG KNIFE COUNTRY, AND ENTERS A FOREST RANGER CAMP...

POW-WOW! IMAGINE IT--A CLASS REUNION. WE CAN'T MISS IT.

WE WILL SEE OUR FRIENDS AGAIN, JIMMY--AFTER ALL THESE MANY MOONS.



THEN, TWO DAYS LATER, AFTER A LONG TRIP EASTWARD...

HEY, POW-WOW! REMEMBER THE TIME YOU SCORED FOUR TOUCHDOWNS AND WE BEAT EAST TECH?

I'D LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT THAT VALLEY YOU LIVE IN.



BUT AMID THE MERRYMAKING, POW-WOW'S KEEN EYES DETECT A DISCONSOLATE FIGURE DRIFTING FROM THE CROWD...

SHOULD AULD ACQUAINTANCE BE FORGOT...

KYLE DELANEY, WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HIM? HE DOESN'T JOIN IN THE FUN...





CONFOUND IT! I CAN'T GET MY MIND OFF SIS -- AND THOSE CROOKS! THEY'VE GOT SIS AND ME RIGHT WHERE THEY WANT US--AND I CAN'T FIGHT BACK! SOME REUNION--HA!...



LATER THAT NIGHT, AROUND A CRACKLING BONFIRE, OLD STORIES ARE TOLD AND RETOLD. CLASS SONGS ARE SUNG OVER AND OVER, AGAIN...



BUT ONE FIGURE SITS ALONE BY THE CAMPUS LAKE-- AND ANOTHER, MOVING AS SILENTLY AS SHUNK-- TOKECHA-- PAUSES IN THE SHADOWS TO WATCH.



MY FRIEND'S FACE IS LIKE THE FOREST SIGNS-- IT TELLS ME MUCH! HE STAYS AWAY FROM THE FUN BECAUSE THERE IS NO FUN FOR HIM! WHY?

THE FIGURE BY THE LAKE READS AND RE-READS A MESSAGE ON A PIECE OF PAPER, CRUMPLES IT AND THROWS IT INTO THE WATER... THEN MOVES AWAY...



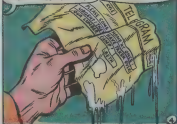
I CAN TELL THEM SIS IS SICK ... THAT'S IT! THEY WON'T SUSPECT ANYTHING ... THEN I GO HOME! ... I MUST GO BACK ... I SHOULDN'T EVEN HAVE LEFT HER...

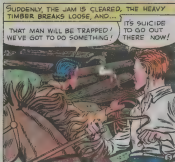
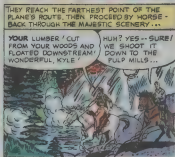
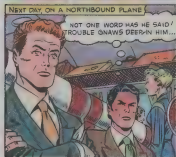
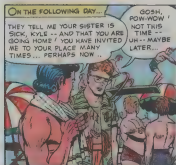
ABRUPTLY...

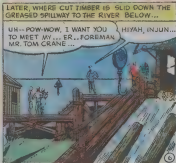
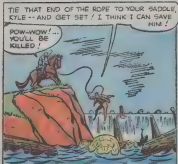
NEVER WOULD I SPY ON A FRIEND TO LEARN HIS PERSONAL SECRETS -- BUT KYLE WALKS IN TROUBLE, AND I WISH TO HELP HIM! PERHAPS THIS PAPER WILL TELL ME MORE...

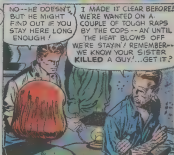
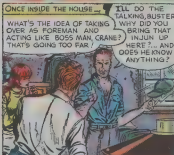


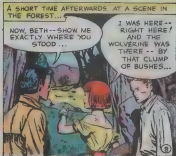
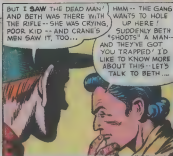
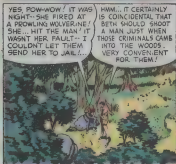
BETH--KYLE'S SISTER! I MET HER AT GRADUATION! HMMM... I WONDER WHO "THEY" ARE...? I MUST FIND SOME WAY TO RETURN WITH KYLE-- WITHOUT HIM LEARNING I KNOW THIS MUCH...

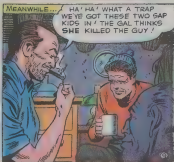
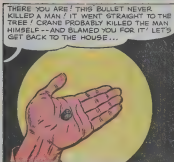
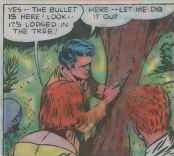












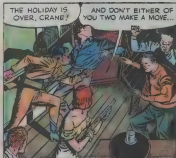


THE EVIL LAUGHTER IS INTERRUPTED BY A SPEEDING ARROW!



THE HOLIDAY IS OVER, CRANE!

AND DON'T EITHER OF YOU TWO MAKE A MOVE...



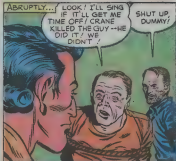
WHAT IS THE WARNING CRY WHEN THE BIG TREES FALL, KYLE...? **TIMBER-R-R!**



ABRUPTLY...

LOOK! I'LL SING IF IT'LL GET ME TIME OFF! CRANE KILLED THE GUY--HE DID IT! WE DIDN'T!

SHUT UP DUMMY!



AS FOR US, WE'VE STILL GOT A REUNION TO ATTEND! WHAT SAY?

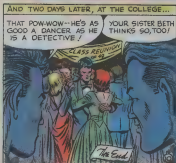
WONDERFUL! WE'LL LEAVE AS SOON AS I GET DRESSED! KYLE-- THIS IS MARVELOUS!



AND TWO DAYS LATER, AT THE COLLEGE...

THAT POW-WOW--HE'S AS GOOD A DANCER AS HE IS A DETECTIVE!

YOUR SISTER BETH THINKS SO, TOO!



Five matchbox
sized in made
entirety of Erector
girders. So strong
it can support
200-lb. man.

Made of STEEL to Build like REAL

World's greatest construction toy
Developed at the
Gilbert
Hall of Science

ERECTOR®

Other Erector features—
curved, straight and post
universal girders. Base
plates in 7 sizes and shapes.
Electro-magnet. Wheels,
rotators, axles and other
automotive parts. Total of
over 170 different parts.

"Real engineering" nuts and bolts
lock Erector parts firmly together.

Exciting Merry-Go-Round.
Wheels round and round.
Rides go up and down.
Built with No. 14½
Erector and up.

Famous square girder with hidden
locking edges—built only with
Erector.

Exciting airplane
ride. Moves at
dizzy speed. Built
with No. 6½
Erector and up.

Powered
by famous
Gilbert
Electric
Motor.

Giant Electric
engine with automobile
type gear shift for forward,
reverse and stop.
Electric
lights.
Can be
installed
to blink or
revolve.

FREE—Big

"Fun and Thrills" book com-
bined with giant American
Flyer Trade Book.

40 large pages. Over 100 color pictures.

Shows all Erectors and tells how to win Television Set
or other Thrilling Erector Award. Also contains pictures
and descriptions of all American Flyer trains and
equipment. Mail coupon today.

Gilbert Hall of Science
114 Erector Square, New Haven, Conn.

RUSH "FUN AND THRILLS" BOOK—FREE

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

**Most fun—most different parts—most
action—most realistic models**

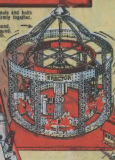
Look at these spectacular Erector models. You build them
yourself. Piece by piece—with your own hands—you fit gleam-
ing girders, gears and other exciting parts together—see them
grow into gigantic engineering marvels. Then hook up the
powerful Erector electric engine—with amazing new Flex-O-
Matic Drive—and make your models buzz with action. You
can build hundreds of realistic models with one Erector set.
Tell Dad you want a genuine Erector. Prices start at \$1.75.
Denver and west, \$1.85.

125 Erector Awards worth over \$2,000.00. Win an R.C.A.
Television Set, movie camera outfit or other big award for
building original Erector models. Mail coupon for details.

**HELLO BOYS! ERECTOR
GIVES YOU MOST OF EVERYTHING!**

No. 8½ ERECTOR
The All-Electric Set
Builds Giant Ferris
Wheel, many other
spectacular models.

\$19.95
Denver and west
\$20.95



ADVERTISEMENT

**BOYS!
GIRLS!**

HURRY! BE THE FIRST TO GO
ROARING BY WITH A WONDERFUL

**CHUGGA-
MOTA!**

SOUNDS LIKE A
REAL MOTORCYCLE



ONLY **20¢**

WITH TWO FRONT COVERS
OF SMITH BROTHERS'
WILD CHERRY
COUGH DROP BOXES

Here's how it works. You'll be the envy of every kid in the neighborhood when you go ripping and roaring down the street with your Smith Brothers' CHUGGA-MOTA! Looks like a real two-cylinder motor. Nothing ever before made with this special motor sound chamber. Sturdy, colorful. You just fasten it onto the rear wheel of your bike—or the front wheel of a tricycle—and the faster you pedal, the louder it roars! Play speed cop, or army messenger. Have wonderful parades. Get several! They make dandy birthday presents, too!



**JEEPERS! THESE
WILD CHERRY COUGH DROPS
ARE THE BEST THINGS
I EVER TASTED!**

HERE'S ALL YOU DO

To get your own wonderful roaring CHUGGA-MOTA... print your name and address on any little slip of paper. Put it in an envelope along with 20¢, and the front covers from two boxes of Smith Brothers Wild Cherry Cough Drops—and mail to:

SMITH BROTHERS
P. O. Box 40, 207
New York 46, N. Y.

HURRY! While supply lasts!

GET A



and Get in on the
FUN!

**SHOOT DAISY'S FAMOUS
800 SHOT
RED RYDER
COWBOY CARBINE**

LICENCED BY STEPHEN SLEIGHMAN, N.Y.

Get a sweet-shootin' RED RYDER COWBOY CARBINE now and get in on the fun! This famous, Daisy 800 shot repeater looks, feels, handles like a real western cowboy saddle gun! Carbine Ring has Leather Saddle Thong attached. Red Ryder's name, horse, brand on stock. Ask Dad NOW to buy it from your Daisy dealer! Promise Dad you'll follow Daisy's Safety Shooting Rules—just as millions of boys have since 1888!

only \$4.95

From slightly
higher in
Boston, Mass.
Canada

WITH
LEATHER
SADDLE
THONG
ATTACHED

Send for Your **FREE**
Christmas Reminder Kit



Mail coupon, stamped 3c stamp—we'll send prepaid your big free, copyrighted CHRISTMAS REMINDER KIT—to reach you about Dec. 1. Kit should help "sell" your parents on getting the Daisy you want for Christmas—as it has already helped thousands. Hurry!

MAIL COUPON NOW!

DAISY MANUFACTURING COMPANY
1599 UNION ST., PLYMOUTH, MICHIGAN, U.S.A.
I enclose stamped 3c stamp to help cover Kit mailing cost. Please send Daisy's big, copyrighted CHRISTMAS REMINDER KIT postpaid, to reach me about Dec. 1.

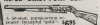
Name _____
St. & No. _____
City _____ State _____

No. 311—DAISY B-B GUN 'n SCOPE TARGET OUTFIT

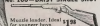
Complete
only \$7.50



No. 25—DAISY PUMP GUN



No. 100—DAISY SINGLE SHOT



No. 118 TARGETTEER AIR PISTOL OUTFIT
Steel Targeteer Pistol, Target Cards, 3 Spinnies, tube "Big B-B" shot. Carbine in target backdrop, RAFE. Accurate to 10 feet. Only \$2.98. (If Dealer hasn't it, send \$3 to Daisy, Dept. T-16, with ship outfit postpaid. No Canadian orders, please.)

© 1954
Daisy
Mfg. Co.
U.S.A.

The Beautiful NEW DAISY TARGETTEER Ready! SAVE TABLE TARGET PISTOL SET!

Gift idea for you or Parents! Safe, accurate to 10 feet. Complete with Silver Chrome Plated Targeteer Pistol, plastic Shooting Gallery, 7 Spinner Targets, 2 sets "Big B-B" shot. If Dealer hasn't it, send \$5 to Daisy, Dept. T-16, we'll ship set prepaid. Sorry, no Canadian orders.



No. 328 Complete
Only \$4.95

BULLS EYE SHOT IN "B-B PAKS" ARE BEST FOR

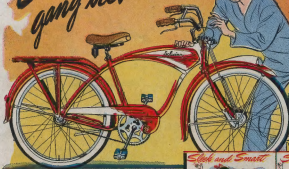
**DAISY
B-B GUNS**

DAISY MANUFACTURING CO., Dept. 1509 Union St., Plymouth, Michigan, U.S.A.

Do not
order unless
a B-B shot
appears
in this
circle

© Copyright

BOY! Wait till the gang sees THIS!



—the bike most kids want is

Schwinn-Built

You'll be the envy of all eyes when your buddies see your new Christmas Schwinn-Built bike! From the powerful front fender light, fore-wheel brake, tubular chrome rims, Cyclolock, and smooth leather saddle back to the streamlined luggage carrier it's really terrific! That's why a Schwinn rates the 5 to 1 favorite with boys and girls everywhere.

See the whole outstanding Schwinn line. Your nearest dealer is listed in the classified section of your phone book.

Look for this famous seal before you buy a bike!



FREE! WHILE THEY LAST!
Schwinn "COMIC BOOK"

Write: Arnold, Schwinn & Company, 17798 N. Kilbore Ave., Chicago 39, Illinois

Please send me a FREE copy of The Schwinn Bicycle Comic Book.

NAME _____

STREET _____

TOWN _____

STATE _____

Sleek and Smart



A Schwinn-Built bike is the one most kids want because it's modern . . . dreamed in every possible detail.

Safe and Sure



Schwinn-Built tubular rims can really take it . . . always no true frame electronically welded like Dad's car.

Built to Last



Schwinn-Built means "Super-Built" . . . only the finest materials and craftsmanship go into Schwinn-Built bicycles.

Amazing Guarantee



Ask about the "Long As You Own It" guarantee. It comes with every bicycle that's Schwinn-Built.

ARNOLD, SCHWINN & COMPANY

17798 N. Kilbore Avenue, Chicago 39, Illinois